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For additional news, information and much, much, more about your government, visit the ASG Website at <http://www.american-samoa.gov>

Tapuitema

...ina ia manino le folauga.

Official American Samoa Government Weekly Newsletter

Wednesday, June 8, 2011

Vol. VI, No. 18

Governor sets record straight about ASG's financial status

-says people are trying to taint his administration's image-

Governor Togiola Tulafono did not bite his tongue when he lashed out at those he called "au fela'ua'i" whom he says are out to make him and the government look bad. The Governor's frustrations were aired on his weekend radio program.

The Governor was referring to those whom he says have been attacking and criticizing his recent decision to return government employees of the executive branch to normal 80-hour pay periods.

The lift on the reduction of hours went into effect on May 29. Togiola said the decision was made after careful consideration and taking into account that summer months are near and there are family obligations, including graduations.

He explained that cutting down on expenses, of which the reduction in work hours for locally funded employees was a major part, has improved the government's financial status. And even though revenues fell short of what was projected, actual spending was lower than

collected revenues.

Those who were affected by the reduction in work hours are happy with the Governor's decision. However, there are critics who wonder how the government can afford to pay everyone for full 80-hour pay periods when the government continues to claim that there are financial hardships.

(News reports stated that at the end of the second quarter for FY 2011 (March), the ASG was looking at a deficit of over \$1 million).

Togiola calls the deficit a forecast for the current fiscal year and said that the figure was based on spending and collections at the time. He said that March is in the past and the decision to reinstate working hours was only made late last month. He added that as the fiscal year continues to move forward, the numbers and figures change.

According to the Governor, ASG has been able to keep spending at a tolerable level and even under-spent in several budgeted areas. But there has been a drop in revenue collections. He said it

was projected that the government would collect \$68.2 million in revenues for the current fiscal year, surpassing the actual revenue collection for FY 2010 which was \$67.7 million.

However, after assessing the decrease in revenue collections, including corporate taxes, changes had to be implemented to reflect what ASG could actually collect at this point in time, heading into the remainder of the current fiscal year, in case the government is not able to collect the projected \$68.2 million.

This resulted in cost saving measures going into effect, including the decision to reduce work hours for ASG employees.

Currently, federal funds for the local Department of Education that were frozen by the USDOE have been restored, meaning ASG no longer has to spend local funds to pay teacher salaries and other associated costs. The result is a positive cash flow which the Governor says has made it possible to

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Togiola says MYD Samoa efforts to sabotage shipyard unsuccessful

Governor Togiola Tulafono an inspection of the facility was government tugboat. did not hold back when he openly conducted last week and items accused MYD Samoa of trying to including wood pieces had been The Shipyard Services sabotage the shipyard and its placed at the foot of the railway to Authority has rehired 17 former operations. (The shipyard was block the boats from moving when employees of MYD Samoa. recently returned to the American they are pulled on to the slipway. Samoa Government after the US Bankruptcy Court of Southern Florida approved a settlement Togiola said the blockage is a Authority Board members include agreement made between ASG, operator of the shipyard to sabotage Carlos Sanchez, Tasi Tuiteleapaga, MYD Samoa, and the federal trustee the government's takeover. But, he David Robinson, Leilua Stevenson, and principals of the company). added, the attempts have failed, as the and Henry Ledoux, all of whom Togiola says are experienced and shipyard is already back in operation, well qualified for their new roles. with repairs already underway for the *****

According to the Governor.

PUBLIC NOTICE

To all alcoholic beverage licensees

Be advised that the Department of Public Safety, in collaboration with the Ta'ita'itama Prevent Underage Drinking Initiative and the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

will be conducting compliance check activities in your area beginning December 2010 and continuing through December 2011.

Please remember that selling alcoholic beverages to a person under 21 years old is illegal per American Samoa Code, Title 27, Chapter 05; Section 27.0531:

"No licensee may sell any alcoholic beverage to any person under 21."

American Samoa is committed to protecting the health, safety, and welfare of its people. Our priority issue is to combat and prevent underage drinking and the problems that arise from this illegal activity.

**For additional information, feel free to contact the
Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws - EUDL Program at 633-1582.**

ASG RADIO PROGRAM

With: Gov. Togiola Tulafono

On: KSBS FM 92.1 Saturdays @ 7:30 a.m.

Nu'uuli Vocational Student Chosen for National GEAR UP Youth Summit

By James Kneubuhl, ASCC Press Officer



GEAR UP Director Tupua Roy Fua (front, left) and his staff congratulate Sandra Purcell (front, center) and her parents after Sandra was chose from among applicants across the nation to attend the National Council for Community and Educational Partnerships Youth Leadership Summit this July. She will travel to San Francisco to the event along with GEAR UP staff attending the NCCEP/GEAR UP yearly national conference. (Photo: J. Kneubuhl)

When a group from GEAR UP American Samoa (GUAS), along with its community partners, travels to San Francisco in mid-July to attend this year's National Council for Community and Educational Partnerships (NCCEP) Annual Conference, they will also chaperone a young woman from the local GEAR UP cohorts who was selected from among hundreds of applicants nationwide to participate in the NCCEP Youth Leadership Summit. Sandra Purcell, 16, a junior at Nu'uuli Vocational Technical High School, will join her peers from across the United States at the Summit, which takes place in San Francisco from July 17th – 20th.

GUAS, a program hosted by

the American Samoa Community College (ASCC), has sent representatives to the national conference for the past several years. Beginning in 2010, GUAS also encouraged its students to apply to attend the corresponding Youth Summit, with Anthony Talosaga emerging as the first successful applicant last summer. With Talosaga's travel and summit participation having worked out positively, GUAS again offered its students the opportunity to apply for this year's event.

Sandra Purcell, the daughter of Mele Lusinita Purcell and Mino Gaya Purcell, has participated in GUAS since the program's inception in 2006. She has earned an impressive list of achievement

awards in academics and sports from both Tafuna Elementary School and Nu'uuli Vocational Technical High School. "I am excited and prepared to attend, as I know I will make new friends from across the nation," said Sandra when informed of her selection by the NCCEP. "I am also expecting to learn more on how I can be a better advocate for my peers, school and my community and voice the challenges we encounter within our education system and be heard." On her application to attend the youth summit, Sandra was asked to address the questions, "What are the toughest educational challenges that you and your peers face?" and "What solutions would you recommend to overcome these challenges?" In response, she produced a three minute video on the subject of school bullying.

GUAS will cover Sandra's travel costs, while the NCCEP will host her for her stay in San Francisco. GUAS staff members Juliet F.C. Pen and Norah Filivaa will act as her chaperones. While Sandra participates in the Youth Summit, Tupua and the GUAS personnel will collaborate with officials from the Boys & Girls Clubs of American Samoa to give a presentation titled "Unlocking a Potential Bridge to the Future" as part of the main conference. Some of the local GEAR UP partners confirmed to also attend the conference include representatives from Taitaitama, Faasao/Marist High School, and the Department of Health.

In an effort to include student perspectives and the opinions of young people, the NCCEP created

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HISTORICAL NOTES

By: Stan Sorensen, Historian, Office of the Governor

On June 8, 1867, Midshipman Benjamin Franklin Tilley (who would become American Samoa's first naval governor on February 17, 1900), graduated first in his class at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland, and was commissioned as an Ensign with the serial number 103.

On June 10, 1899, the "Kingship" of Samoa was vacated, and was replaced by a Provisional Government of Consuls, as follows: Friedrich Rose (Germany); Ernest George Berkeley Maxse (England) and Luther Wood Osborn (United States). Dr. Wilhelm Heinrich Solf, Ph.D. (in Philology), a veteran civil servant in the German colonial service, was appointed as Executive Director.

On June 10, 1919, Commander Warren Jay Terhune succeeded Commander John Martin Poyer and became American Samoa's 12th naval governor (until his suicide on November 3, 1920). Commander Terhune was the only American Samoan governor who died in office.

On June 10, 1976, Congressman Philip Burton (D-CA) introduced a bill to make it possible for American Samoa's Governor and Lieutenant Governor to be popularly elected rather than appointed by the Secretary of the Interior. The bill passed the U.S. House of Representatives by a landslide vote of 377 to 1.

On June 11, 1927, New Zealand's Minister of External Affairs, William Nosworthy, met with O.F. Nelson and other members of Western Samoa's "Citizens' Committee," which was the executive of the *Manu*. He branded the European and part-European (*i.e. afukasi*) members of the Committee as self-seeking intriguers who were attempting to undermine the Samoans' confidence in their own institutions. He said that such conduct was "nothing less than criminal, and deserving only to be dealt with as a crime."

On June 11, 1984, American Samoa's *Fono* (Legislature) denied Governor Peter Tali Coleman's bid for a third term. Later in the year, this decision was upheld by the High Court and the Secretary of the Interior.

On June 12, 1941, the Judge Advocate General of the U.S. Navy informed the Chief of the Bureau of Supplies and Accounts that he had "approved the purchase of 33.3 acres of land in Utulei Village at a cost of \$53,230 for Marine barracks.

On June 13, 1722, Dutch navigator Admiral Jacob Roggeveen, after "discovering" Easter Island and several islands in the Tuamotu group, arrived in Samoa. Roggeveen's three ships were the *Arend*, under Captain Jan Koster; the *Thienhoven*, under Captain Cornelis Bouman, and the *Afrikaansche Galei*, commanded by Captain Roelof Rosendaal. They sighted Rose Atoll, which they named "Vuyle Eylandt" (Bird Island). On the following days, they sighted all of the Samoan islands, except for Savai'i, Apolima and Manono. Roggeveen named the Manu'a group the "Isles of Bouman" after Cornelis Bouman. He named Tutuila "ThienhovenIsland" and Upolu "Groeningen Island."

On June 13, 1900, the Commandant of the U.S. Naval Station Tutuila, Commander Benjamin Franklin Tilley, originated the idea of a Samoan Militia, and later became the Fita Fita Guard.

On June 15, 1791, Captain Edward Edwards of HMS *Pandora*, searching for the mutineers from HMS *Bounty*, landed on Tutuila and found buttons and clothing from the boat of Jean-François de La Pérouse's First Officer, Paul-Antoine Fleuriot de Langle, who was killed at "Massacre Bay," A'asu, Tutuila, with 11 of his crew, on December 11, 1787.

**TA'ITA'ITAMA &
THE AMERICAN SAMOA COMMUNITY
COLLEGE**

PROUDLY HOSTS THE

**BOYS AND GIRLS CLUBS OF
AMERICAN SAMOA &
GEAR UP AMERICAN SAMOA**

**2011 SUMMER
ACADEMY**

WHERE: ASCC Campus

WHEN: June 13 through July 1, 2011

Time: 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

HOW TO APPLY:

Limited slots available; First Come, First Served Basis. Priority Preference for Military Dependents

Applications can be picked up and returned to the following locations:

- **ASCC GEAR UP Office (Mapusaga)**
- **Dept. of Parks and Recreation (Tafuna Industrial Park)**
- **DHR WIA One Stop Resource Center (EOB Utulei)**
- **DHSS WIC Office (Pago Pago)**
- **DOH Community Health Centers (Tafuna, Leone, Amouli)**
- **Office of Veterans Affairs (Utulei)**
- **Or via email. Send request to taitaitama@gmail.com**

Completed applications must be returned with:

- **Copy of child's birth certificate**
- **Signed parent consent form**
- **Copy of parent's military ID, if applicable**

IMPORTANT NOTE:

All youth must have transportation to and from the ASCC Campus and they must have sport shoes to participate. For security purposes, all BGCAS participants must depart the ASCC campus by 11:00 a.m. everyday during the academy.

For more info: Call 633-1582 or email

taitaitama@gmail.com

(Please see page 7 for complete Summer Schedule)

Olosega Elementary and National Park Service receive America's Best Idea grant

The National Park of American Samoa, Olosega Elementary, Ofu Community Center, and Stanford University were awarded an America's Best Idea Grant to improve science education for students at Olosega Elementary, on April 21st.

The grant, funded by the National Park Foundation, will be used to develop science lessons; buy educational supplies, equipment, and books; and install an aquarium.

Manu'a Park Ranger, Carlo Caruso, Olosega Principal, Howard Moliye and other community partners had already thought about ways for the national park to help educate Olosega students when they discovered the grant opportunity. "We heard about it last minute and only had a week to turn our rough ideas into a full proposal, but everyone was committed to making it happen," said Park Ranger Caruso.

Deborah Malae, who runs the Ofu Community Center, created a plan to obtain and catalog new books for the school's classrooms and the community center's shelves. Principal Moliye proposed a component for purchasing education materials to support hands-on educational activities. Dr. Stephen Palumbi, who leads researchers from

Stanford University each year to study coral in Ofu, offered to help the National Park set up an aquarium at the school for the students to observe and enjoy.

National Park of American Samoa workers Ale Malae and Ricky Misa'alefua helped Park Ranger Caruso and teachers Sita Malae and Matthew Baunack host a solar oven competition at the Ofu Ranger Station on April 29.

The ovens, some of which reached temperatures over 170 degrees F, easily melted the students' marshmallows and chocolate treats. According to Mr. Baunack, "the students had a great time building their ovens and learning about power of natural resources like solar energy."

The America's Best Idea grant will allow the Olosega teachers to do more interactive hands-on educational activities like this one. "I really encourage parents and the larger community to get involved in educating their children," Principal Moliye said.

Park Ranger Caruso will work with Principal Moliye, Olosega teachers, and the Ofu Community Center to identify needed books and educational materials to purchase during the summer break.

He will also develop a set of interactive science lessons. These lessons will be presented when the new school year starts in the fall of 2011.

Inspired by the epic Ken Burns documentary *The National Parks: America's Best Idea*, the National Park Foundation, in partnership with Lowe's Charitable and Educational Foundation, the Anschutz Foundation and the Ahmanson Foundation, awarded America's Best Idea grants to 19 National Parks across the country.

The National Park of American Samoa was established in 1988 to preserve the coral reefs, tropical rainforest, archaeological and cultural resources, the habitat of fruit bats, and to provide educational opportunities for visitors and residents. National park lands and waters are leased from villages and the American Samoa Government through a long-term agreement with the National Park Service.

For more information about visiting the National Park of American Samoa, call 699-3982, email NPSA_Info@nps.gov, or go to www.nps.gov/npsa. Also, visit the National Park's Facebook and Twitter pages.

ASCACH

presents

The Children's Culture Maintenance Summer Program 2011

The American Samoa Council on Arts, Culture, and Humanities will be sponsoring its **Children's Culture Maintenance Summer Program 2011** at the Museum compound in Fagatogo from **June 27 - July 22, 2011**.

Children will learn: *weaving, carving, Samoan legends, siapo-making, Samoan dance and music.*

Registration will be open: **June 6 - 17**. Please visit our office to register your child (\$5 per child: registration fee). For more information, call our office at 633-4347/4490/5613.

E mana'omia faia'oga lalaga
Fa'amolemole fa'afeso'ota'i mai le matou ofisa i le
telefoni 633-4347

We need weaving instructors
Please contact our office @ 633-4347

Secretary of Samoan Affairs

PC Tufele Li'amatua honored by the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation

Paramount Chief Tufele Li'amatua was honored Tuesday by the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation (NMSF) in Washington DC, for his tireless commitment to marine conservation in American Samoa.

Tufele was one of 14 individuals across the National Marine Sanctuary system nominated for the foundation's Volunteer of the Year award. The recognition is part of Capitol Hill Ocean Week, an oceans-focused annual conference coordinated by the NMSF, a private non-profit organization supporting NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries.

Since 2008, Tufele has volunteered for the sanctuary, providing invaluable "tofa mamao", counsel and support during the management plan review and site selection process. During his service as Lt. Governor of

American Samoa and later as the District Governor for the Manu'a Islands, he advocated for the integration of traditional ecological knowledge and modern science to inform marine conservation in the territory.

"Paramount Chief Tufele has been instrumental in helping Fagatele Bay National Marine Sanctuary forge meaningful relationships with key stakeholders and village leaders throughout the territory," said Genevieve Brighthouse, sanctuary superintendent. "He has a vision for the future of American Samoa and believes that strategic conservation programs, coupled with education and outreach, can help protect natural resources and enhance the livelihoods of the Samoan people."

For a slideshow of images from CHOW, visit the NMSF website

at www.NMSFocean.org

Fagatele Bay National Marine Sanctuary embraces a fringing coral reef ecosystem contained within an eroded volcanic crater in American Samoa. The nation's smallest marine sanctuary at one-quarter square mile, the sanctuary is uniquely rich in both natural resources and cultural heritage. Hundreds of species of corals, colorful reef fish, algae and other invertebrates can be found in the sanctuary's warm waters, along with sea turtles, dolphins, sharks, giant clams, and migratory humpback whales.

NOAA's mission is to understand and predict changes in the earth's environment, from the depths of the ocean to the surface of the sun., and to conserve and manage our coastal and marine resources.

Governor sets record straight...*(continued from page 1)*

restore full working hours for ASG employees.

Togiola said it is estimated that DOE will close the fiscal year with a surplus of \$1.6 million and this is another funding source that has made it possible for working hours to be restored.

However, the Governor says there is still a need for funds and that is why the revenue bills submitted by the administration to the Fono will not be withdrawn. He said the government still owes ASPA close to \$5 million in utility bills, with a large portion of the bill coming from schools and the Executive Office Building.

Right now, said the Governor, ASG is concentrating on ensuring that vendors are being paid every week, depending on the availability of funds. Togiola said he hopes his explanation is clear, as negative comments have been made by people who are filled with jealousy and intend to make him and the government look bad.

GEAR UP Youth Summit... *(continued from page 3)*

created national opportunities for youth to participate in the NCCEP/GEAR UP Annual Conference. More than 200 GEAR UP high school students have participated in the Youth Leadership Summit since 2003. The NCCEP has been partnering with GEAR UP for Excellence to present the Summit since 2005. Blending leadership development with the experience of participating in a professional conference, the Summit teaches participants how to be advocates for their schools and communities, empowering them to become the voice for their peers. Youth leaders, known as GEAR UP Scholars, work together to compile a Summit report focused on what educators should consider as they design strategies and programs for increasing student achievement.

For more information about the NCCEP, including the Annual Conference and Youth Leadership Summit, visit www.edpartnerships.org.

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN AND SOCIAL SERVICES

WIC PROGRAM

PH: 633-2610

FAX 633-2618

June is celebrated across the United States as the National Fresh Fruits and Vegetables Month and the American Samoa WIC Program would like to remind all families in American Samoa that there is no better time than now to start enjoying fruits and vegetables.

To promote eating fruits and vegetables, the American Samoa WIC Program gives WIC moms monthly vouchers to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables at all authorized WIC grocery stores.

Fruits and vegetables come in terrific colors and flavors, but their real beauty lies in what's inside. Fruits and vegetables are great sources of many vitamins, minerals and other natural substances that may help protect you from chronic diseases.

To get a healthy variety, think color. Eating fruits and vegetables of different colors gives your body a wide range of valuable nutrients like fiber, folate, potassium, and vitamins A and C.

To find out if you or members of your family qualify for the American Samoa WIC Program, please contact us at 633-2610.

Department of Parks & Recreation

in collaboration with

The American Samoa Aquatic Assoc.

Announces

Open Water Swimming and Water Safety Program 2011 for children ages 8 – 17

Sign ups are now being conducted at Utulei Beach and at the Department of Parks & Recreation office. Space is very limited so availability is on a first come first served basis.

Sign up schedule:

- Utulei Beach – (Now thru Saturday, June 11th) 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
- Parks & Rec. office – 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Monday thru Friday

Program Schedule: Lessons will be given every Tuesday and Thursday at 9:00 a.m to 11:00 a.m.

BOYS AND GIRLS CLUBS OF AMERICAN SAMOA & GEAR UP AMERICAN SAMOA

2011 SUMMER ACADEMY

SUMMER SCHEDULE:

For BGCAS Youth (Ages 10-14)

8:30 to 9:30 a.m.

9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Math Trek
Graphic Arts
Robotics
Reading and Writing
Emergency First Aid
Music
Read Aloud

Basketball
Volleyball
Softball
Soccer
Music

For GUAS Cohort (Juniors)

9:30 to 12:00p.m.

Auto Desk
Math Trek
Pre-SAT
Reading and Writing
Marine Science
Agricultural Science
Robotics

“Promoting a College and Career Ready Future for American Samoa”